

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 33-34, 36, 40, and 45-46 as follows:

<sup>1</sup>  
~~33.~~ (Twice Amended) A composition comprising a first compound which selectively activates a Retinoid X Receptor in preference to [a] all of Retinoic Acid Receptor isoforms  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$  and  $\gamma$ , in combination with a second compound which selectively activates a Retinoic Acid Receptor in preference to a Retinoid X Receptor.

<sup>2</sup>  
~~34.~~ (Twice Amended) A composition comprising a first compound which selectively activates a Retinoid X Receptor in preference to [a] all of Retinoic Acid Receptor isoforms  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$  and  $\gamma$ , in combination with a second compound which activates one or more intracellular receptors other than a Retinoid X Receptor.

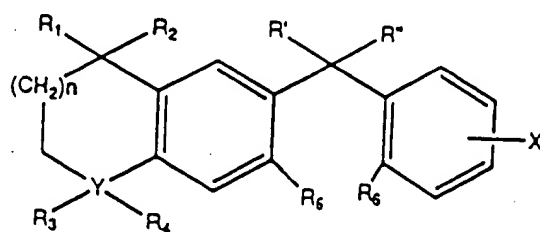
<sup>4</sup>  
~~36.~~ (Twice Amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising in a pharmaceutically acceptable vehicle for enteral, parenteral, or topical administration a first compound which selectively activates a Retinoid X Receptor in preference to [a] all of Retinoic Acid Receptor isoforms  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$  and  $\gamma$ , in combination with a second compound which selectively activates one or more intracellular receptors other than a Retinoid X Receptor.

<sup>6</sup>  
<sup>6</sup>  
~~40.~~ (Three Times Amended) A method for modulating a process mediated by intracellular receptors, said method comprising causing said process to be conducted in the presence of a first compound which selectively activates a Retinoid X Receptor in preference to all of Retinoic Acid Receptor[s] isoforms  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$ , and  $\gamma$ , in combination with a second compound which

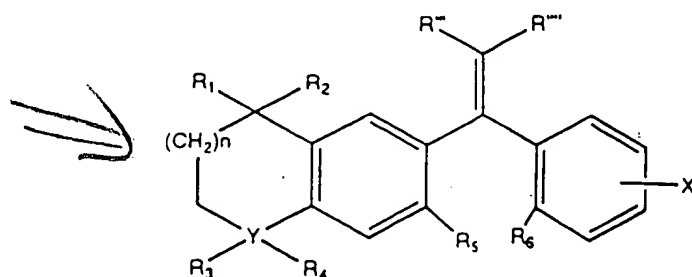
not  
considered  
E3  
amla

activates an intracellular receptor other than Retinoid X Receptors, said activated intracellular receptor forming a dimer with said activated Retinoid X Receptor, and wherein the biological effect in a patient produced by said first and second compounds at a given concentration is equal to or greater than the additive effect achieved utilizing each said first and second compounds alone at said concentration, and wherein said process is the *in vivo* modulation of lipid metabolism, *in vivo* modulation of skin-related processes, *in vivo* modulation of autoimmune diseases, *in vivo* modulation of fatty acid metabolism, *in vivo* modulation of malignant cell development, *in vivo* modulation of premalignant lesions, or *in vivo* modulation of programmed cell death.

12 19  
45. (Amended) A compound having the formula:



or



wherein

R<sub>1</sub> and R<sub>2</sub>, each independently, represent hydrogen or lower alkyl having 1-4 carbon atoms;

Y represents C, O, S, or N;

R<sub>3</sub> represents hydrogen or lower alkyl having 1-4 carbon atoms where Y is C or N;

R<sub>4</sub> represents hydrogen or lower alkyl having 1-4 carbon atoms where Y is C, but R<sub>4</sub> does not exist if Y is N, and neither R<sub>3</sub> or R<sub>4</sub> exist if Y is S or O;

R' and R'' represent hydrogen or lower alkyl having 1-4 carbon atoms;

or R' or R'' taken together form an oxo (keto), methano, cyclopropyl or cycloalkyl group and wherein the cyclopropyl and cycloalkyl groups can be substituted with lower alkyl having 1-4 carbons;

R''' and R'''' represent hydrogen or lower alkyl having 1-4 carbon atoms;

E4 cont.  
R<sub>5</sub> represents hydrogen or a lower alkyl having 1-4 carbons or OR<sub>7</sub>, but R<sub>5</sub> cannot be hydrogen if R<sub>6</sub> is hydrogen and R' and R'' represent H, OH, C-C<sub>4</sub> alkoxy or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> acyloxy or R' and R'' taken together form an oxo or a methano;

R<sub>6</sub> represents hydrogen;

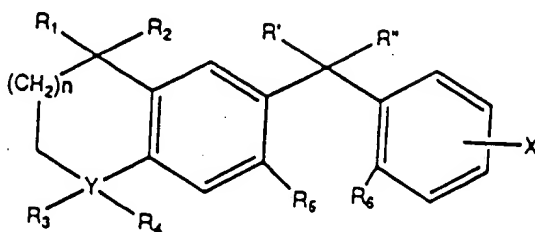
R<sub>7</sub> represents hydrogen or a lower alkyl having 1-6 carbons;

X is COOH and can originate from any C on the ring; and

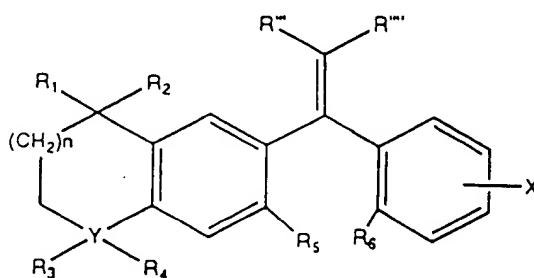
n = 0-1.

13 46. <sup>13</sup> (Amended) A pharmaceutical composition for control of cellular processes regulated by retinoid compounds, Vitamin D, or thyroid hormone, comprising an effective regulating amount of a bicyclic aromatic compound, or a pharmaceutically acceptable ester, amide or salt

thereof, in combination with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, wherein the bicyclic aromatic compound has the structural formula:



or



wherein:

$R_1$  and  $R_2$ , each independently, represent hydrogen or lower alkyl having 1-4 carbon atoms;

$Y$  represents C, O, S, or N;

$R_3$  represents hydrogen or lower alkyl having 1-4 carbon atoms where  $Y$  is C or N;

$R_4$  represents hydrogen or lower alkyl having 1-4 carbon atoms where  $Y$  is C, but  $R_4$  does not exist if  $Y$  is N, and neither  $R_3$  or  $R_4$  exist if  $Y$  is S or O;

$R'$  and  $R''$  represent hydrogen or lower alkyl having 1-4 carbon atoms;

or R' or R'' taken together form an oxo (keto), methano, cyclopropyl or cycloalkyl group and wherein the cyclopropyl and cycloalkyl groups can be substituted with lower alkyl having 1-4 carbons;

R''' and R'''' represent hydrogen or lower alkyl having 1-4 carbon atoms;

*ad added*  
R<sub>5</sub> represents hydrogen or a lower alkyl having 1-4 carbons or OR<sub>7</sub>, but R<sub>5</sub> cannot be hydrogen if R<sub>6</sub> is hydrogen and R' and R'' represent H, OH, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkoxy or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> acyloxy or R' and R'' taken together form an oxo or a methano;

R<sub>6</sub> represents hydrogen;

R<sub>7</sub> represents hydrogen or a lower alkyl having 1-6 carbons;

X is COOH and can originate from any C on the ring; and

n = 0-1.

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